

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 MASERU 01002 141458Z

ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-13 EB-07 COME-00 DHA-02 TRSE-00 ORM-02

AID-05 /085 W

-----052439 141514Z /45

P R 141011Z JUL 77

FM AMEMBASSY MASERU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7264

INFO AMEMBASSY GABORONE

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

AMEMBASSY MBABANE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MASERU 1002

E.O. 11652:M NA

TAGS: SOPN, US, XA, LT

SUBJECT: REACTIONS TO SECRETARY'S AFRICA SPEECH (II) -
NEWSPAPER EDITOR COMMENTS

REF: A) MASERU 967, B) STATE 153476

BEGIN SUMMARY: MIKE PITSO, LESOTHO JOURNALIST WARMLY
ENDORSED SECRETARY'S SPEECH ON AFRICA BUT REMARKED NEW
POLICY HAS BROUGHT ABOUT LITTLE CHANGE AND THAT US HAS
MUCH MORE POWER TO EFFECT EARLY CHANGE IF IT IS WILLING
TO USE IT. PITSO REGRETS SECRETARY DID NOT COMMENT ON
EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES OF US FIRMS IN RSA. HE REMINDS US
THAT CONTINUED REJECTION OF BANTUSTANS AND WHITE MINORITY
GOVTS ARE BASIC TO MAINTAINING US CREDIBILITY. HE LAUDS
DEVELOPMENT MANPOWER TRAINING AND EXPRESSES MISGIVINGS
ABOUT PROLONGED POSTING OF TECHNICIANS IN LDCS, SAYS
VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS IN AFRICAN COUNTRIES SHOULD
LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 MASERU 01002 141458Z

NOT GO UNREMARKED AND EXPRESSES APPRECIATION FOR SECRETARY'S
ASSURANCE US SOLUTIONS WILL NOT BE IMPOSED AND FOR ECONOMIC
ASSISTANCE TO STATES COPING WITH REFUGEE PROBLEMS. PITSO
SAYS NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENTS ARE ACCEPTABLE ONLY IF THEY
DO NOT RESULT IN INSTALLATION OF WESTERN PUPPET GOVERNMENTS.
END SUMMARY

1. AT INVITATION OF PAO, MIKE PITSO (STRINGER FOR SOUTH AFRICA RAND DAILY MAIL AND LESOTHO CATHOLIC WEEKLY) COMMENTED IN WRITING ON SECRETARY VANCE'S SPEECH. PITSO, FORMERLY ACTIVE IN OPPOSITION POLITICS IN LESOTHO, IS SECRETARY OF LESOTHO UNION OF JOURNALISTS. HIS VIEWS MAY BE ACCEPTED AS BROADLY REPRESENTATIVE OF LIBERAL LEFT OPINION IN LESOTHO.

2. PITSO COMMENTARY OPENS WITH STATEMENT THAT VANCE SPEECH IS QUOTE ENCOURAGING TO AFRICAN PEOPLE EXCEPT ON SOUTH AFRICA WHERE MAJORITY OF FREEDOM-LOVING PEOPLE OF AFRICA STILL MAINTAIN THAT UNITED STATES IS NOT HARD ENOUGH...TO INFLUENCE CHANGE...UNQUOTE. HE ADDS THERE HAS BEEN GREAT HOPE FOR THE BETTER IN THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION AMONG THE PEOPLE OF AFRICA. QUOTE BUT THERE HAS NOT BEEN MUCH POSITIVE CHANGE TO SATISFY THE EXPECTATION. US IS A SUPER POWER WHICH CAN SUCCESSFULLY AND EFFECTIVELY INFLUENCE THE ERADICATION OF ILLS OF THE WORLD WITHIN A SHORT SPACE OF TIME AS LONG AS THEREIS WILLINGNESS AMONG THE PEOPLE AND GOVERNMENT (OF USA). UNQUOTE.

3. PITSO PRAISED US AS GREAT COUNTRY NOT ONLY FOR ITS TECHNOLOGICAL ACHIEVEMENTS BUT FOR ITS CONTRIBUTION TO RESPECT FOR HUMAN RIGHTS IN US AND WORLDWIDE. US CONCERN IS CONSOLATION TO VICTIMS OF OPPRESSION EVERYWHERE BUT HE FEELS US CAN PLAY STILL GREATER ROLE IN HUMAN RIGHTS THAN SHE DOES NOW.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 03 MASERU 01002 141458Z

RM PITSO REGRETS THAT SECRETARY DID NOT COMMENT ON EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES OF 400 AMERICAN COMPANIES OPERATING IN SA ABOUT WHICH HE SAYS LITTLE HAS BEEN HEARD CONCERNING THEIR ATTITUDES ON APARTHEID AND EQUAL PAY FOR EQUAL WORK.

5. PITSO PRAISED VANCE COMMENTS ON BALKANIZATION OF SA. HE SAYS TOTAL REJECTION OF HOMELANDS SYSTEM SHOULD CONTINUE TO AVOID SPLINTERING SA INTO MINI-TRIBAL STATES. PITSO SAYS SECRETARY SEEMS FIRM ON THIS POINT WHICH WILL KEEP ALIVE QUOTE FLAME OF HOPE BURNING AMONG THE AFRICAN PEOPLE UNQUOTE. CONTINUED REJECTION OF BANTUTSTANS WILL PRESERVE US CREDIBILITY, HE ASSERTS.

6. US SUPPORT FOR WHITE GOVTS IN SOUTHERN AFRICA WOULD RESULT IN AMERICA CREATING ENEMIES FOR HERSELF; WOULD COMMUNITY WOULD RALLY BEHIND SOVIETS AND US CREDIBILITY WOULD BE ERODED DOING DISSERVICE TO US STAND ON HUMAN RIGHTS EMPHASIZED BY CARTER ADMINISTRATION.

7. PITSO LAUDS SECRETARY'S COMMENTS ON TRAINING AFRICANS WHO QUOTE ARE MORE IMPORTANT THAN MACHINES UNQUOTE. HUMAN DEVELOPMENT IS AFRICA'S FUTURE, ESSENTIAL TO ACHIEVEMENT

OF SELF-SUSTAINING GROWTH WITH INDIGENOUS MANPOWER VICE INDEFINITE POSTING IN AFRICA OF TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PERSONNEL FROM DEVELOPED COUNTRIES. THOUGH TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER IS NECESSARY, INTELLIGENTSIA VIEW CONTINUED POSTING OF DONOR COUNTRY PERSONNEL IN AFRICA AS ATTEMPT TO TURN LDCS INTO SATELLITES OF BIG POWERS. PRESENT MANNER OF ACCOMPLISHING TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER IS NOT SATISFACTORY EXCEPT TO GOVTS MOE INTERESTED IN PRESERVING POWER THAN IN DEVELOPMENT.

8. WHILE AGREEING WITH SECRETARY ON PIVOTAL ROLE IN AFRICA IN WORLD AFFAIRS, PITSO STATES NUMERICAL SUPERIORITY OF AFRICA IN UN MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO COVER UP THIRD WORLD TRAMPLING O HUMAN RIGHTS NOR USED AS AN INSTRUMENT TO MIS-DIRECT UN ON MATTERSO F INTERNATIONAL IMPORTANCE. ALTHOUGH LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 04 MASERU 01002 141458Z

WORLD ATTENTION FOCUSES ON SOUTHERN AFRICA, INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY CANNOT OVERLOOK LACK OF RESPECT FOR HUMAN LIFE IN OTHER COUNTRIES SUCH AS QUOTE UGANDA, MALAWI AND ETHIOPIA UNQUOTE. PITSO APPLAUDS SECRETARY'S ASSERTION THAT US INFLUENCE ON HUMAN RIGHTS CANNOT BE DIRECTED AT ONE REGION ONLY.

9. PITSO APPRECIATES SECRETARY'S CONCLUSION THAT US CANNOT IMPOSE ITS SOLUTIONS ON AFRICA ALTHOUGH MOSCOW, HE NOTES, DOES NOT SHARE THIS VIEW. IT IS IMPORTANT FOR US TO PRESERVE ITS QUOTE NEUTRALITY UNQUOTE IN ORDER TO AVOID TRUNING AFRICA INTO BIG POWER BATTLEGROUND.

10. ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE AND GROWING US TRADE WITH BLACK-RULED INDEPENDENT COUNTRIES (IN CONTRAST TO US/SOUTH AFRICA TRADE) IS SYMBOL OF GENUINENESS AND ACCEPTANCE OF CHANGE IN SOUTHERN AFRICA. MUCH NEEDED ASSISTANCE TO BLACK-RULED COUNTRIES IN SOUTHERN AFRICA IS HIGHLY APPRECIATED BY THE PEOPLE OF THESE COUNTRIES BECAUSE IT STRENGTHENS THEM IN CONTINUING TO HARBOR REFUGEES FROM REPRESSIVE REGIMES AND OFFSETS LOSSES DUE TO THEIR EFFORTS TO BRING ABOUT CHANGE IN THREE WHITE-RULED STATES.

11. FINALLY, NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT IS APPRECIATED ONLY IF IT PRODUCES POSITIVE RESULTS ANDNOT IF IT IMPOSES PUPPET OF WESTERN WORLD. ON OTHER HAND, ARMED STRUGGLE WITH SUPPORT OF USSR WILL RESULT IN ZIMBABWE AND NAMIBIA NEVER BEING FREE.

12. COMMENT: PITSO VIEWS MAKE CLEAR AGAIN THE ENTHUSIASM GENERATED BY NEW SOUTHERN AFRICA POLICY PRONOUNCEMENTS BUT ILLUSTRATES WIDESPREAD FEELING THAT NEW POLICY HAS RESULED IN LITTLE IF ANY CHANGE IN RSA. THERE IS CLEAR FEELING THAT US HAS MUCH MORE POWER THAN IT IS WILLING TO ADMIT OR USE TO LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 05 MASERU 01002 141458Z

EFFECT EARLY CHANGE IN SA E.G. EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES PARA 4
ABOVE. PITSO SPEAKS FOR ALL BASOTHO IN EXPRESSING NECESSITY
FOR US TO CONTINUE SHUN BANTUSTANS AND WHITE GOVTS ALIKE IN
ORDER MAINTAIN CREDIBILITY.
STOKES

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, SPEECHES
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 14-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MASERU01002
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770250-1301
Format: TEL
From: MASERU
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770758/aaaabxwx.tel
Line Count: 180
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: a786566b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 4
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 MASERU 967, 77 STATE 153476
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1862955
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REACTIONS TO SECRETARY'S AFRICA SPEECH (II) - NEWSPAPER EDITOR COMMENTS
TAGS: SOPN, US, XA, LT, (VANCE, CYRUS R)
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/a786566b-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009